

REMARKS

The Examiner has issued a non-final rejection of Claims 1-6 as anticipated by Patent Application Pub. No. 2002/0060911 to Brockmann et al. The claims have been amended to clearly distinguish them from the Brockmann et al reference and reconsideration of the rejection under 35 USC §102 is respectfully requested.

Applicant asserts that the Brockmann et al application neither anticipates nor makes obvious the applicant's invention as defined in amended claim 1. The Brockmann et al application teaches a lighting fixture that has one or more rings on the exterior of the lighting fixture body that are operatively connected to individual light beam influencing elements inside the fixture body providing an improved adjustment mechanism whereby a user can conveniently adjust these elements by manipulating the corresponding rings. Notably, Brockmann et al does not teach or suggest a securement mechanism that locks a framing shutter or other light beam influencing element in an independently adjusted position relative to the fixture body. The annular elements disclosed in the Brockmann et al application are designed to be rotatable in order to perform the adjustment of the light beam influencing elements and do not provide clamping force on a light beam influencing element to lock it in place after adjustment.

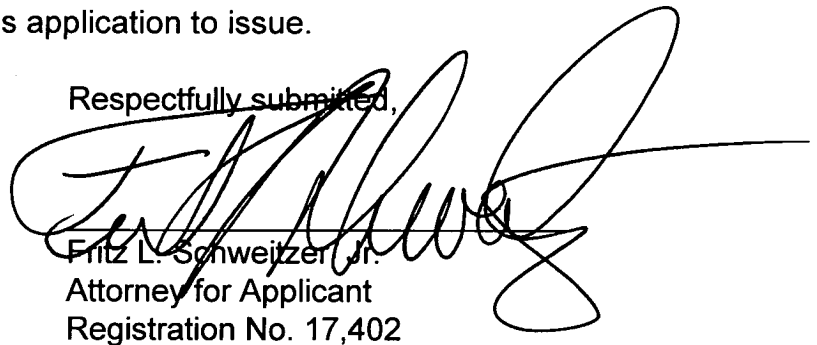
In contrast, the applicant's claims call for a pair of locking rings that are positioned on opposite sides of outwardly projecting portions of the framing shutters, and that can be tightly compressed together to lock the shutters in previously adjusted positions. This novel shutter lock prevents the shutter elements from being movable as a result of vibrations, for example, or even when significant forces are accidentally placed on the elements. The light beam influencing elements in the device of Brockmann et al are engaged with a guiding pin coupled with an angled end portion of the shutter on the inside of the light fixture body, to enable adjustment of the shutter by rotation of the adjusting rings. In the mechanism of the Brockmann et al elements of the light beam influencing elements do not have portions extending outward from the housing, and the adjusting rings do not clamp the light beam influencing elements in place and restrain them from moving when a significant force is placed thereon. Further, the applicant's shutter lock can engage and secure a plurality of light beam influencing elements while each ring on the device of Brockmann et al only engages a single light beam influencing element to enable independent adjustment of that element.

Brockmann et al does not teach or suggest a securement device that locks one or more framing shutters or other light beam influencing elements of a lighting fixture in an independently adjusted position relative to the fixture body, and the device of Brockmann et al is incapable of performing the intended purpose of

applicant's invention. Accordingly, the applicant's invention, as now claimed, is patentably distinct from Brockmann et al and the §102 refusal should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing arguments, the independent claim and claims dependent thereon are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections of the claims and pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,




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